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OFFICIAL

Docket No.: 01-22 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Fernando et al.

DOCKET NO.: 01-22 US

SERIAL NO.: 10/014,270

GROUP ART UNIT: 1743

DATE FILED: November 7, 2001

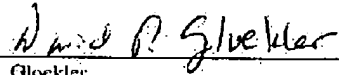
EXAMINER: Gakh, Yelena G.

CONFIRMATION NO.: 3025

TITLE: FIBER-OPTIC DISSOLUTION SYSTEMS, DEVICES AND METHODS

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9315 on January 29, 2004.

January 29, 2004


David P. Gloekler

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated November 24, 2003, for which a shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire on February 24, 2004. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested in view of the following Amendments and Remarks.